

From: Mike Springer
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/3/02 1:12pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Honorable Sirs:

I have been an independent systems consultant for the last 20 + years.

I have seen IBM screw its customers with predatory activities and with providing Products did not work very well at all. Yet they were left unscathed.

Now you have an entrepreneurial company, Microsoft, that has attempted to make A product that is easy for the relatively unsophisticated end user that will provide him with all the tools to use his computer effectively. (That?s more than IBM ever thought of).

Yet, for their ability to meet the market effectively, you have persecuted them in the name of the people. Your track record is less than stellar in protecting the people.

Would you like to revisit MCI and ATT. The courts broke up ATT and now we have very little logic In our phone systems. I can call someone from a pay phone and pay \$ 7 or \$ 8 for a two minute call. That is working in the best interests of the consumer? I suggest NOT.

Of should we talk about the tobacco settlement fiasco? Ask the people in your office over 50 years of age what the slang was for cigarettes. May be we called them ?cancer sticks? or even ?coffin nails?! That was over 50 years ago when I was a teenager. I knew they were deadly then.

Let Microsoft due what they can to make end user use of computers more effective. Ultimately, That will benefit our society more than a bunch of restrictions and penalties will.

Just get the government out of this mess without spending a ton more in our tax dollars. It would be Far more beneficial for our tax dollars to go for paying our

military, or replenishing our arms inventory.

Respectfully,

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